RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE
KNOWLES-NELSON STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson Stewardship Program was
created in 1989 to protect and restore critical wildlife and fish habitat, preserve
high-quality natural areas, improve water quality and expand opportunities for outdoor
recreation in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the Stewardship Program enjoys broad public support and is founded
on a long history of bipartisan initiatives to conserve public land in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the Stewardship Program has permanently protected over 475,000
acres across the state including acquisition of over 1,000 miles of State Trail and
development of thousands of additional miles of trails throughout Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the Stewardship Program has provided places to recreate for the 85%
of Wisconsin residents who enjoy outdoor recreation; and

WHEREAS, the Stewardship Program has leveraged over $140 million in local
and private dollars through 50% matching grants to municipalities and non-profit
conservation organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Stewardship Program will expire in June 2010 unless the
Legislature votes to extend it; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has proposed extending the Stewardship Program
through 2020 and increasing funding for the program to $105 million in 2011 as part
of the 2007-2009 state budget; and

WHEREAS, we have a closing window of opportunity to protect critical wildlife
habitat, lake and river shoreline, forested tracts, parks, and the other natural treasures
that contribute to our quality of life, economy and general well being:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governor’s State Trails
Council supports reauthorization of the Stewardship Program at $105 million
annually from 2011 to 2020.

Passed this thirteenth day of July 2007 by the Governor’s
Wisconsin State Trails Council.

Moved by Tom Thornton, seconded by Robbie Webber. Tom Huber abstained.